

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Myanmar extends visa exemption for Russian tourists for one year



This file photo captures Russian tourists visiting one of the enchanting locations in Myanmar in the previous year.

D EPUTY Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Phyo Zaw Soe said in a meeting with delegations, including tour operators and tour agencies from the Russian Federation, that Russian tourists holding ordinary passports have been granted one additional year of visa exemption.

According to statistics released by the ministry, before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were 0.5 billion travellers globally in 2019, and the tourism industry received an income of

US\$1.8 trillion, accounting for 10.3 per cent of global GDP and creating 330 million jobs.

Until August 2024, a total of 2,544 Russian tourists entered Myanmar, and the number of Russian tourists increased by 819 over the same period in 2023.

Russian tourists have been granted visa-free travel since July 2022, and regular direct flights between Russia and Myanmar have been launched. Currently, to be able to visit the main destinations in a short period of time connecting with

Chaungtha and Ngwehsaung beaches, Yangon-Pathein-Nyaung-U-Mandalay round-trip flight has been scheduled since 13 October, the deputy minister added.

A commemorative tree planting ceremony was held at Mount Pleasant Hotel Nay Pyi Taw on 21 October and attended by representatives of tourism operators and travel agencies from the Russian Federation who came on the Familiarization Trip (FAM Trip) to promote Myanmar-Russia tourism. — Htun Htun/ZN

Article

Diplomacy in the Digital Age: How Social Media is Transforming Global Politics

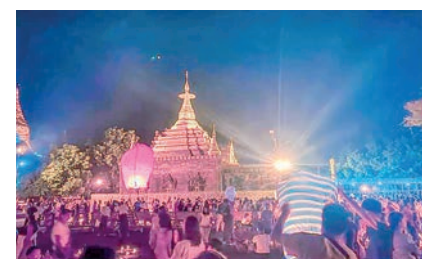
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Bagan expects surge in local and foreign tourists this dry season

BUSINESS PAGE 7



3,000+ tonnes of shrimp shipped to external markets this FY H1

Yellow River-Mekong River Exchange Week 2024 welcomes Myanmar representatives

A CCORDING to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization, the Yellow River-Mekong River Exchange Week 2024, which will take place from 10 to 14 November in Dezhou, Shandong Province, China, cordially invites Myanmar representatives to participate.

Yellow River is China's lifeline, spanning


ning Qinghai, Sichuan, Gansu, Ningxia, Inner Mongolia, Shanxi, Shaanxi, Henan and Shandong provinces. Mekong is also an important river in Asia, running through Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam across the Indo-China Peninsula. Mekong-Lancang Cooperation was also initiated in 2016. The Yellow River-Mekong River Dialogue was launched

in August 2023 in Dezhou, with representatives of Mekong countries and the Yellow River.


The 2024 Yellow River-Mekong River Dialogue was successfully convened on 11 March 2024 in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam and cooperation in trade, investment, culture and sister cities relations was accelerated.

Myanmar representatives who will join the Yellow River-Mekong River Exchange Week 2024 will be provided meals only. Interested individuals can enquire about the event through 86 18812755775 or dzswb@dz.shandong.cn or the contact number of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408622 or email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

NATIONAL



Citizens yet to be counted in Nationwide Census to be reassessed



- The 2024 Nationwide Census activities were conducted from 1 to 15 October.
- The people who have not completed census processes due to various reasons can contact the relevant ward and village census committees and township census committees to collect census data again.
- Individuals can also contact 067 431062, 067 431359, 067 431067, 067 431339. — Central Census Commission

Empowering Agro-Based Industries for Enhanced Value-Added Production

— It is necessary to operate agro-based industries to be able to manufacture value-added products.
— If existing sound foundations and human resources are utilized for the development of agriculture and livestock, production will change.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the State Administration Council meeting 2/2024 on 29 March 2024)

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization confirmed

THE State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of U Aung Hlaing Moe, Director-General of the Economic Department of the State Administration Council Office, after a one-year probationary period.

COVID-19 report, 28 October 2024		
NEW TESTS	NEW CASES	CASUALTIES
10,762	6	Nil

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Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Monday 28 October 2024)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and a few cloud over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 29 October 2024: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in southern Shan, Kayin and Mon States, isolated in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and eastern Shan and Kayah States. Degree of certainty is 100%. Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in

advance these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 3-7 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Fairly widespread to widespread rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Region and Kayin and Mon States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 October 2024: A few cloud.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 October 2024: Partly cloudy and Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 October 2024: A few cloud. — DMH

Over 150 Myanmar workers despatched to South Korea



This picture captures new EPS Myanmar workers to the Republic of Korea on 28 October. **PHOTO: MYANMAR EMBASSY, SEOUL**

A total of 152 new manufacturing workers were sent to the Republic of Korea on 28 October through the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA), announced by the Myanmar Embassy.

Myanmar workers arrived at Incheon Airport by Myanmar National Airlines UB 8301 (charter flight), and the labour attaché from the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul welcomed them and provided necessary assistance, stated the embassy.

One hundred and fif-

ty-three manufacturing workers on 7 August, seven agriculture and livestock workers and 145 manufacturing workers, totalling 152 on 16 July and 188 manufacturing workers on 25 June, were sent under EPS.

One hundred and fifty-two manufacturing workers on 21 May, and 146 manufacturing workers and 24 agriculture and livestock workers, totalling 170 on 7 May, were sent.

Four hundred and twenty-one in April, 862 in March, and 1,333 in February were previously sent. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

MoI Union Minister stresses continuous learning for staff capacity in tech era



UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn emphasized the importance of continuous learning to improve staff capacity in the technology era while addressing 20 staff officer trainees from Chin State, Rakhine State, Shan State, Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing Region, Bago Region, Magway Region, Mandalay Region, Yangon Region and Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn addresses the opening of the Capacity Enhancement Course 2/2024 yesterday.

The Union minister highlighted the need for strong ideas, a positive attitude, and hard work to carry out departmental activities effectively. He also urged trainees to share knowledge with young coworkers and innovate to achieve success.

The opening ceremony of the Capacity Enhancement Course 2/2024 from the Department of Information and Public Relations was held at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw.

Permanent Secretary U Win Kyaw Aung, departmental heads, and trainees were present on the occasion. — MNA/TS

National Complaint Mechanism (NCM) to deal with forced labour complaints

THE Myanmar government has been dealing with forced labour complaints in cooperation with ILO and relevant ministries since 2007. Since 2020, forced labour complaints have been settled through the National Complaint Mechanism (NCM), which includes representatives of the National Human Rights Commission, employer organizations, employee organizations, and relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Labour.

Nowadays, it is reported that forced labour victims can safely contact and complain to the Office of the State Administration Council, Region and State governments, the Nay Pyi Taw Council, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the ILO Liaison Office (Yangon) and other organizations or to the Ministry of Labour Office No 51, Nay Pyi Taw, in person or in writing via 067 3430184, 067 3430229, 067 3430274 and director-general.dolPgmail.com, moloffice51@gamil.com, and research.org.dol.mm@gmail.com. — MNA

Yangon Circular Railway to introduce new DEMU carriages in Nov

ACCORDING to Myanma Railways, the Yangon circular railway service will run with new DEMU rail carriages in November.

The country has purchased 11 diesel-electric multiple-unit (DEMU) carriages from Spain, and nine carriages have arrived.

Currently, Myanma Railways has carried out the railroad upgrade project, which includes setting up signals at level crossings, reconstructing train stations, and elevating platforms.

Train ticket fees are also raised to K400 from K200 for a



This photo depicts the upgrade of platforms at the railway station.

20-mile journey and K800 from K300 for circular rail above 20 miles, as of 20 October.

No 15-Up Yangon-Bago train and the No 16-Down Bago-Yangon passenger train have started running since 2

October, equipped with new air-conditioned DEMU carriages, and for the safety of passengers, iron staircases with handrails have already been set up at 12 stations along the railroad. — Htun Htun/ZS

NATIONAL

Bagan expects surge in local and foreign tourists this dry season

BAGAN is expected to host higher arrivals of foreign tourists in the 2024 dry season, according to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Bagan Branch).

"There were about 100,000 foreign tourists to Bagan until September of 2023 and over 100,000 in 2024. During the Thadingyut festival, the arrivals of local and foreign travellers were high, and we expect there might be high tourist arrivals in the dry season. Bagan possesses unique sites that tourists prefer, and it is also the heart of the country. Therefore, we welcome

all travellers to visit the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone during the dry season," said the department director.

The Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone has ancient lakes and natural plants, and the renovation and conservation of pagodas and temples are conducted, ensuring the sustainability of ancient heritage. Domestic and international travellers can enjoy sunrise and sunset views from the designed grounds.

Moreover, travel

agencies from Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Yangon add trips to Mount Popa and the Popa National Geopark on Bagan tour. These agencies prepare for trips to Bagan and Popa regarding hotels, guesthouses, local products and foods.

"Hotels are fully booked for three days during the Thadingyut festival. All rooms are fully booked for the three-day Tazaungdine Festival. We have to book at other hotels. The electricity was fully provided during Thadingyut. We all are waiting for

travellers with the best services for the coming festival," said an official from the Hotel Bagan.

The road to Bagan is safe, easy, and convenient, and travellers can get to Bagan by flight, train, or car.

There were over 300,000 travellers to Bagan during the five-day holiday of the Thadingyut Festival, exceeding the numbers of previous years. Therefore, a surge in the arrivals of local and foreign travellers to Tazaungdine is expected. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH



This photo showcases domestic and international travellers visiting the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone. **PHOTO: KANU**

Shan State's carrot trade grows with orders from Yangon, Mandalay

CARROT trade has recently increased in Shan State's Aungban vegetables market, and many orders have been placed from Yangon and Mandalay regions.

In Aungban, local carrot prices have been regular, and it is likely that prices will continue to be steady in the following months.

"Recently, carrot trade has been fine. It is our local species. We don't have many customers in Mandalay, and we mainly transport them to Yangon. But other traders transport to Mandalay. Price has been steady," said a carrot retail and wholesale trader in Aungban.

She said carrot prices

change often but are not very different and are likely to stay unchanged in the following months.

Carrots can grow best in loose soil and proliferate if seeds are soaked in warm water for about 30 minutes. — Thit Taw/ZS

This image shows Shan State-produced carrots.



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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

Two terrorists die in mine blasts while heading to target

TWO terrorists died in mine blasts on a taxi when they were heading to their destination to plant mines on 27 October.

Locals reported to the security force that two injured men were falling down near No 30 BEPS in Padamya Street, Ward 62 of Dagon Myothit (South) Township. Security forces inspected the location and found two suspects, Phoe La Pyae, who lived in Ward 78 and Paing Min Htet, who lived in Ward 94 of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. They were transported to No 1 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) for medical treatment.

According to the investigation, Phoe La Pyae, Paing Min Htet and Aung Naing Tun (aka) Kayin went to the Ward 94 administrator's office in a Toyota Corolla driven by Ngwe Soe to explode

it. On the way to the office, their homemade mine blasted accidentally on a taxi, and Aung Naing Tun (aka) Kayin ran away from the car. The driver, Ngwe Soe, carried the other two and threw them out near No 30 BEPS.

Security forces blocked the areas to arrest driver Ngwe Soe, who was arrested near the corner of Pyidaungsu and Maygawady Roads in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. Moreover, one homemade mine was found in the car, and officials deactivated it.

Phoe La Pyae and Paing Min Htet died while receiving medical treatment, and action was taken against Ngwe Soe under the law. Moreover, security forces conducted security measures to arrest Aung Naing Tun (aka) Kayin, who is still at large. — MNA/KTZH



Phoe La Pyae (dead).



Paing Min Htet (dead).



Car driver Ngwe Soe.



Photos show the vehicle terrorist used and the blast inside the car.

Illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K577M



Photos reveal officials check illegal teak logs in Bago Region.

EFFORTS to curb illegal trade, led by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, are being carried out effectively by the law.

On 25 October, combined on-duty teams seized two types of industrial materials and two types of consumer goods, valued at K531.89 million, without official documentation from 25 containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint. Additionally, illegal teak weighing 0.525 tonne and other illegal timber weighing 0.709 tonne, worth K173,249, were seized in Magway and Minbu districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law and Customs procedures.

On 27 October, combined teams conducted further inspections, leading to the seizure of two types of industrial materials, valued at K25 million, smuggled and stored near a riverbank in Kawthoung. Another type of consumer goods, worth approximately K9 million and lacking proper documentation, was confiscated from a warehouse in the Innlaymyaing industrial zone in Myeik. Illegal timber weighing 11.18 tonnes and valued at K1.118 million was also seized in Kalwin Village-tract in Myeik Township. The action was taken under the Forest Law and Customs regulations.

Additionally, illegal teak weighing 19.4 tonnes and

hardwood weighing 3.772 tonnes, valued at K10.298 million, were captured in the Bago, Toungoo, and Pyay districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

Across 25 and 27 October, 13 arrests were made, resulting in the confiscation of illegal items valued at approximately K577 million. The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee highlighted that illegal trade poses a significant obstacle to the country's economic development and has a major impact on the socioeconomic sector. The committee reaffirmed its commitment to intensifying efforts against illegal trade. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Security forces accused of torching Yepadaing village, Mandalay

MALICIOUS media intentionally circulated fake news, claiming that security forces torched Yepadaing village in Ngazun Township, Mandalay Region, on 26 October.

PDF terrorists started an attack against security forces, who were taking security measures between Yepadaing and Ywathit villages on that day, using small and

heavy weapons. Therefore, there was a clash between the two groups. Due to the counterattack of security forces, terrorists retreated and burnt down houses along the way, according to a security official.

Subversive media reportedly spread false claims, defaming security forces. — MNA/KTZH



This screenshot validates misinformation.

NATIONAL

Over 500,000 pilgrims visit Shwemawdaw during Thadingyut

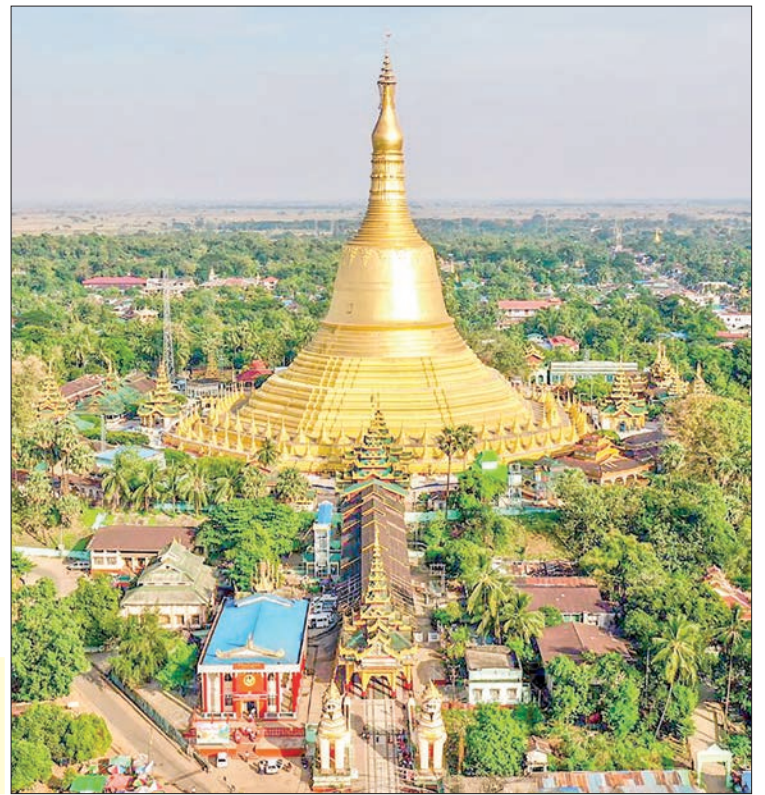
ACCORDING to U Shwe Thein, a member of the Shwemawdaw Pagoda Board of Trustees, more than 500,000 pilgrims from across the country visited Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago, Bago Region, during this year's Thadingyut holidays.

"It was exceptionally crowded at the pagoda this Thadingyut," U Shwe Thein explained. "We anticipated more visitors than last year, so we reopened and prepared five

community halls around the pagoda for pilgrims to rest. Pilgrims began arriving early, even before the pagoda opened at 5 am on the full moon day. Once open, the grounds were filled with people, comparable to the crowds during the Buddha Pujaniya Festival. On the full moon day alone, more than 300,000 pilgrims visited, with around 200,000 coming on the following days, totalling over 500,000 for the festival period."

In addition, Shwemawdaw Pagoda will host the Tazaungdine lighting and hot-air balloon festival, along with the Satuditha (charity feast) and the Matho Thingan (robe) weaving competition, to be held in the western archway's parking area. — ASH/MKKS

This photo showcases an aerial drone panoramic view of the Bago Shwemawdaw Pagoda.



Miss Universe Myanmar 2024 Thet San Anderson seen together with officials from Mahidol University, Thailand.

Miss Universe Myanmar awarded by Mahidol University ahead of 2024 competition

MISS Universe Myanmar 2024, Thet San Anderson, announced that she was awarded an honorary certificate from Thailand's Mahidol University on 27 October. She received this recognition after participating in the Crafting Digital Identity: Personal Branding & Social Media Presence seminar, which was part of a community development initiative at the university.

The seminar featured presentations from Dr Randell Shannon of Mahidol University, digital marketing specialist Mr Gun Chawapol, and Myanmar student Thukha Khaung Mon Soe, an Influencer Marketing Executive at Happio Media

Thailand. They discussed social media marketing in the beauty industry and marketing strategies for beauty pageants in Myanmar. The event was attended by Master's students from Mahidol University, providing valuable insights into leveraging social media for branding and identity.

Miss Thet San Anderson is now en route to Mexico to compete in the 73rd Miss Universe pageant, set to commence on 16 November. She expressed her pride in representing Myanmar in this international competition, where contestants from over 40 countries will participate. — ASH/TMT

New Myanmar series premieres ahead of 31 Oct release on Fortune TV

THE premiere of a new Myanmar television series, "Lin Kyann Maya Kyann", was held on the evening of 27 October at Rangoon Cineplex in the Kanthaya Shopping Mall, North Okkalapa Township. The series was both written and directed by Khun Thar Cho.

The plot centres around Kyaw Dun and his wife, notorious village loan sharks known

for their violent behaviour, who often end up locked in stocks as punishment. Their lives take a dramatic turn when they discover a stolen bag of gold belonging to a gang of robbers. Overjoyed, they bring it home, only to face haunting nightmares and ominous signs. "The couple encounters endless troubles brought on by their greed," said Khaing

Noe, one of the main actors in the series.

The cast includes Khaing Noe, Khun Thar Cho, Arkar Myint Aung, Eaint Chue Pwint, and Academy Award winners Aung Khine and Khin Moh Moh Aye, among other notable artistes. The series will air on Fortune TV at 8 pm every Monday to Friday from 31 October. — ASH/TRKM



This image showcases a poster of the 'Lin Kyann Maya Kyann' television series.

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals
Enterprise



NATIONAL BUSINESS

YGN palm oil wholesale reference rate slightly rebounds



Cooking oil is arranged neatly for sale in the market.

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market rebounded slightly to K6,320 per week ending 3 November from K6,265 per viss ending 27 October, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and

banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed the consumers of lodging the complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

Complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK



Myanmar exports fishery products to 40 international countries, including Japan, Bangladesh, China and Thailand, through maritime and land borders. A glimpse of Myanmar's export shrimp.

3,000+ tonnes of shrimp shipped to external markets this FY H1

THE Fisheries Department stated that Myanmar delivered more than 3,470 tonnes of shrimp to international trading partners in the first half of the current financial year 2024-2025, beginning 1 April, with an estimated value of US\$12.33 million.

Myanmar's seaborne shrimp export reached over 2,860 tonnes worth \$8.87 million, and the border saw exports of 616.9 tonnes worth \$3.47 million between 1 April and 30 September.

Myanmar exports fishery products to 40 international countries, including Japan, Bangladesh, China and Thailand, through maritime and land borders. Myanmar delivered more than 160,000 tonnes of fisheries worth \$176.3 million to external markets in the H1 (April-September) this financial year, comprising over 82,000 tonnes worth \$110 million through maritime trade and over 78,000 tonnes worth \$65 million at borders. — NN/KK

Avocado trade rises with Yangon, Mandalay as key destinations



This photo depicts the avocado trade flourishing in the Taunggyi fruit market.

AVOCADO trade has increased in Shan State's Taunggyi fruits market, and Yangon and Mandalay are significant buyers, so the price is fair.

"This is avocado season, so the sale is pretty high. Shan State is the biggest avocado producer, so we have nationwide orders. Yangon and Mandalay

are the major buyers. The avocado season begins in October and goes through February or March. Price will decrease further when production increases. In November and December, the production is usually abundant. Even now, the production has been plentiful, and the price has become cheap," said Ma Sandi Tayar, a fruits distributor from Taunggyi Township.

Avocado is the most consumed fruit in Yangon, and it is served as juice, according to a fruit trader in Mayangon Township.

"Avocado consumption is high in Yangon because many people enjoy it, especially when it is served as juice. Generally, avocado sales are high during this period," he said. — Thit Taw/ZS

Dawei dried fish primarily supplied to central Myanmar, Thailand



This photo depicts dried croaker fish produced in Dawei.

MOST dried Lotia and dried croaker fish from Dawei are supplied to central Myanmar and Thailand, according to dried fish market sources.

They are selling well in the market, and sales of dried Lotia fish are rising with higher consumption.

"At the moment, the best-selling dried fish on the market are Lotia and Croaker. These two types are widely consumed in Myanmar. They are eaten in all regions, and they are the most popular. Among them, Lotia is more popular. All the people, regardless of class, eat it. Most of them are bought from Magway, Meiktila, Shan State and Thailand. We mainly supply to central Myanmar and Thailand. Order amounts are the same for both dried fishes, as well as other necessary things. They mainly buy these two dried fishes," said an official from the Aung Dried Fish in Dawei Township.

Dried fish prices may go down after the Tazaungdine festival despite a possible high price trend near that festival.

"The price is on the rise now. As the Tazaungdine festival approaches, it rises, but after the festival, it tends to fall again. Come summer, dried fish is abundant, and the price is likely to fall. Now, the price is going up as the Tazaungdine festival is near. The upward trend is in this October as Thadingyut and Tazaungdine are correlated," he said. — Thit Taw/ZN

OPINION

Restore peace to sustain people's fundamental rights

PEACE is essential for the sustainable development of any country. The benefits of peace far outweigh the negative consequences of its absence, influencing societal stability, economic growth, and human rights. Effective peace processes can significantly impact local, regional, and global conditions, underscoring the importance of the rule of law and the promotion of democratic governance. As nations strive for lasting peace, the focus is on ensuring fundamental human rights and fostering inclusive administrations.

Throughout history, numerous groups and nations have engaged in peace talks to forge commitments that end conflicts and combat terrorism. These dialogues have often helped diverse communities avoid tensions and wars. Unfortunately, extremist ideologies rooted in narrow political or religious beliefs and the spread of hate speech continue to obstruct peace initiatives in various parts of the world. Such extremism presents a formidable challenge to achieving lasting peace in the 21st century.

According to a 2024 report from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, approximately 120 million people globally have been displaced due to wars, terrorism, and torture. The number of displaced individuals has risen for 12 consecutive years, exacerbated by the emergence of new conflicts and the transformation of existing ones. This alarming trend highlights the need for urgent attention to the rising global military expenditures, which are closely tied to the increasing number of displaced persons.

In 2024, nations are grappling with both new conflicts and persistent issues, further complicating the quest for peace. Historian Conway W Anderson noted that the world has experienced around 14,500 wars from 3500 BC to the late 20th century, with a mere 300 years of sustained peace. This historical perspective reinforces the understanding that peace is not just a temporary state but a foundational element for long-term development and stability.

To foster sustainable development and protect fundamental rights, it is imperative for countries to prioritize peace initiatives. This involves promoting dialogue among diverse groups, combating extremism, and advocating for the rule of law. Restoring peace is not merely an idealistic goal but a necessary condition for the prosperity and well-being of societies worldwide.

Only when conflicts and armed struggling lines cease will the country enjoy the fruits of peace. The countries that cannot restore peace will encounter poverty, downtrends in the economy, deterioration of the rule of law, and the outbreak of criminal cases. In fact, peace is not to be expressed in the treaty. Peace must be restored in the minds of individuals. Their peace of mind will save their lives and limbs forever, as will their societies.

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By Daw Hla Myet Chell
(International Law)

IN the early days of diplomacy, nations forged their relationships through formal letters, emissaries, and discreet negotiations conducted behind closed doors. Today, however, the landscape has dramatically shifted. World leaders now convey diplomatic messages with the simplicity of a tweet, and global policy discussions unfold in real-time across social media platforms. The internet has ushered in a new era of diplomacy – often referred to as ‘Twitter diplomacy’ or ‘digital diplomacy’ – which is revolutionizing how countries interact with one another and connect with their citizens.

The Power of Twitter Diplomacy

Consider a single tweet: 280 characters sent from a smartphone can now influence millions of people around the world in seconds. No leader has demonstrated this more dramatically than former US President Donald Trump, who used Twitter not just as a platform to communicate domestic policies but as a tool for global diplomacy. From directly addressing North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to announcing US foreign policy decisions, Trump showed how a tweet could bypass traditional diplomatic channels, instantly shaping international discussions.

But it's not just the US that has embraced digital diplomacy. Around the globe, leaders like Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi have harnessed the power of social media to connect directly with citizens and international audiences. In 2023, during the G20 Summit held in New Delhi, Modi utilized platforms like Twitter (X) and Instagram to promote India's presidency of the G20, share key initiatives, and highlight the importance of global cooperation on issues like climate change and sustainable development. His active engagement on social media allowed him to shape narratives around India's leadership role in addressing global challenges while fostering dialogue and collaboration among member countries.

Public Diplomacy and Crisis Management

One of the key strengths of digital diplomacy is its ability to reach not only foreign governments but also global citizens. Public diplomacy – winning the hearts and minds of people in other countries – has taken on new meaning in the digital age. Social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram are now crucial tools for embassies and government officials to promote cultural diplomacy and create positive narratives about their nations.

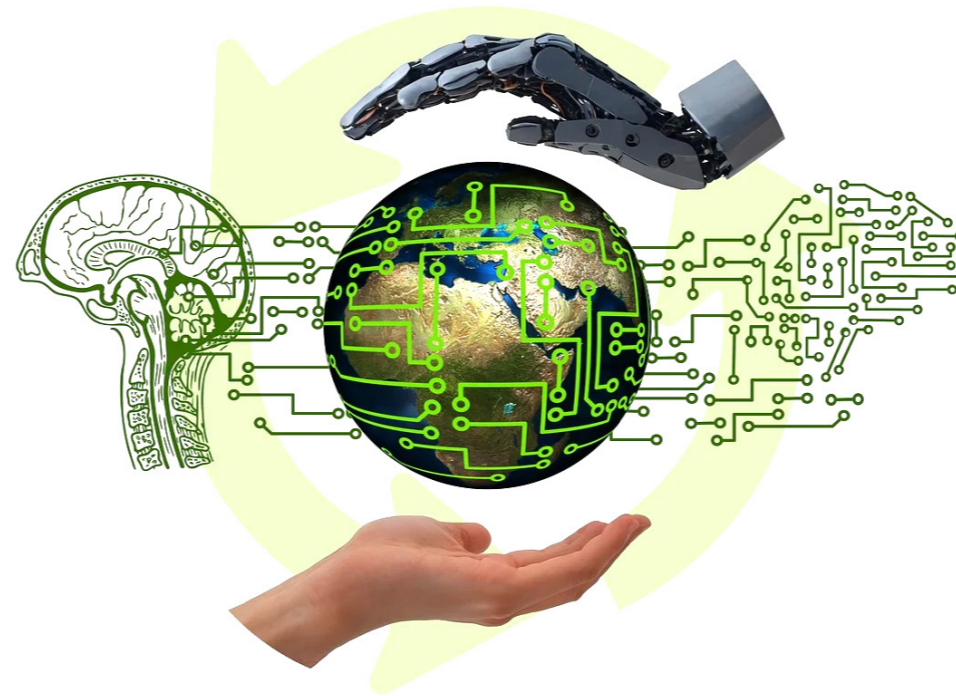
For instance, South Africa's Department of International Relations and Cooperation actively uses social media to promote its cultural diversity and initiatives, engaging with global audiences through posts that highlight its rich heritage, traditional music, and significant events like the annual Nelson Mandela Day celebrations. In contrast, China utilizes platforms like Weibo to promote its Belt and Road Initiative, sharing stories of infrastructure projects and cultural exchanges. Meanwhile, Bhutan leverages social media to highlight its unique approach to Gross National Happiness, sharing insights into its cultural values and sustainable development efforts, fostering goodwill and understanding through shared cultural experiences.

In times of crisis, social media can also serve as an essential tool for diplomatic communication. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Health Organization and various government officials used platforms like Twitter to coordinate international responses and provide timely updates on health guidelines. Similarly, in the aftermath of natural disasters or terrorist attacks, social media allows governments to disseminate information, request aid, or offer assistance quickly.

The Hazards and Hurdles

Nevertheless, for all its advantages, social media also introduces significant risks to the world of diplomacy. One of the most pressing concerns is the spread of misinformation and disinformation. Fake news can

Diplomacy in the Digital Age: How Social Media is Transforming Global Politics



Diplomats must adapt to the digital age. Social media will be crucial for public diplomacy, crisis management, and negotiations, requiring mastery of digital communication skills. ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY

inflare conflicts, deepen misunderstandings, and even destabilize governments. A significant example occurred during the conflict between Israel and Hamas in 2021 when misinformation circulated on social media about the events leading to the violence. False narratives and misleading images were shared widely, inflaming tensions and polarizing opinions internationally. This misinformation complicated diplomatic efforts by various countries seeking to mediate the conflict, illustrating how social media can quickly escalate diplomatic crises and hinder constructive dialogue in sensitive geopolitical situations.

Another challenge is the informal and often unpredictable nature of digital diplomacy. Traditional diplomacy is built on careful negotiation and tact, but social media allows for impulsive, unfiltered statements that can escalate tensions. A single tweet can lead to diplomatic fallout if misinterpreted or seen as inflammatory. In an era where

world leaders have instant access to millions of followers, a moment of poor judgment can have far-reaching consequences.

Shaping Global Opinions and Soft Power

While challenges persist, the capacity of social media to influence international relations is profound. For instance, during the negotiations surrounding the Iran nuclear deal (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) in 2015, social media became a battleground for narratives. Key diplomats, including US Secretary of State John Kerry, utilized platforms like Twitter to provide real-time updates and to counter misinformation about the negotiations. This online engagement allowed for greater transparency and helped to rally support from both domestic and international audiences. Furthermore, after the deal was reached, social media was instrumental in disseminating messages of hope and collaboration, as well as in addressing concerns from sceptics

in various countries. This example highlights how social media can serve as a vital tool in diplomacy, shaping perceptions and facilitating dialogue during critical negotiations.

The Next Chapter of Diplomacy in a Digital Era

As social media continues to evolve, so too will the nature of diplomacy. Future diplomats will need to master not just the art of negotiation but the skill of digital communication. Social media platforms will increasingly become critical arenas for public diplomacy, crisis management, and even negotiations.

On the other hand, the world must also consider the need for international laws and diplomatic protocols to keep up with the pace of digital change. What measures can be taken to ensure world leaders' responsible online communication? How can the spread of misinformation be controlled without infringing on free speech? As digital diplomacy becomes more entrenched in

global politics, these are questions that will need answers.

Conclusion

Diplomacy in the digital age is fast, direct, and powerful. Social media has transformed global politics, creating new opportunities for engagement and new risks. Leaders now have the power to shape international relations with the click of a button, and the world is watching. In this rapidly changing landscape, diplomacy will need to adapt, ensuring that even in the digital age, dialogue and cooperation remain at the heart of international relations.

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Locals fume as Lisbon's historic trams become tourist 'toy'

Originally designed to navigate the steep streets, these trams now attract nearly nine million visitors a year, showcasing the city's charming views.

AN age-old symbol of the Portuguese capital, Lisbon's rickety yellow trams have become such a magnet for tourists that some locals complain they can no longer grab a ride.

Lisbon began operating trams in the late 19th century to transport passengers up the steep and narrow streets criss-crossing the hilly old city.

Today's visitors travel back in time admiring the wooden flooring and old-fashioned appearance of carriages that offer spectacular views of the Tagus river and picturesque pastel-coloured buildings.

But as visitors flock to the capital in larger numbers — almost nine million in 2023 — some residents are growing exasperated with the effects of mass tourism.

"The tram? It's not for us anymore, it's reserved for tourists!" said Luisa Costa, a resident of the working-class neighbourhood of Mouraria who is in her 60s.

With foreign visitors cramming the carriages, Costa now waits at a stop for electric minibuses put on by the Lisbon transport company Carris for residents who take the same route.

At Martim Moniz square in central Lisbon, passengers sometimes queue for more than an hour at a tram stop on line 28, the most popular route which winds through the most photogenic spots.

Red trams aimed at tourists have also been created but are less popular due to their higher costs.

Other tram lines have been put back into service after being scrapped during the 20th century with the development of the urban bus network.

Despite the measures, "the situation keeps getting worse", said Fatima Valente, an 82-year-old pensioner.

Trams have become "a toy" for tourists to fill their Instagram stories at the expense of residents who "really need" them, journalist Fernanda Cancio wrote in the *Diario de Noticias* daily earlier this month.

Local associations have for years demanded a more reliable public transport system for both residents and tourists.

SOURCE: AFP



TRAMS take part in an annual parade of classical trams and buses in Lisbon as part of celebrations of a transport company's 152nd anniversary. PHOTO: AFP

SCI/ENVIRON: WORLD

Robot dogs being tested in quest to keep Mount Tai clean

CARRYING nearly 40 kilogrammes despite their slender limbs, an unusual group of robot dogs were recently spotted moving up and down the steps on Mount Tai, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in east China's Shandong Province.

These robot dogs were undergoing weight-bearing climbing tests. Their mission is to free human porters from the long-standing challenge of garbage removal on Mount Tai.

Ma Yufei, head of the property management team at Taisihan Cultural Tourism Group, explained that these robots are industrial-grade quadruped machines developed by a domestic technology company.

Regarded as the foremost one of the Five Great Mountains of China, Mount Tai is of both historical and cultural significance. However, due to its steep terrain and narrow, winding roads, large-scale mechanized cleaning operations have long been unfeasible on Mount Tai. For years, human porters have had to carry trash up and down the mountain on foot.

"In 2023, Mount Tai saw a record 8.62 million visitors, generating 24,000 tonnes of waste," Ma said. "The difficulty and cost of garbage collection and removal have both increased significantly, making efficient cleanup a real challenge."

Robot dogs could help to make waste removal faster and more efficient at this famous venue. These robots are designed to excel in rough terrain, move steadily on slippery surfaces, climb stairs with ease, and cross obstacles like wooden barriers

and platforms up to 40 centimetres high. Each can carry a maximum load of 120 kilogrammes and operate for over four hours on a single charge, according to testers.

"In the past, we had to carry everything ourselves. But if these

robots can be deployed after fine-tuning, it will greatly ease our workload," said Zhao Xingzhong, a cleaner on Mount Tai.

During tests, these robot dogs have attracted considerable attention from tourists.

"It's exciting to see how modern technology is breathing new life into Mount Tai," one tourist remarked. "Imagine climbing alongside these steel companions, carrying their heavy loads with precision and grace. It's amazing!"

The potential introduction of robot dogs on Mount Tai is part of a broader trend in China. Intelligent robots are becoming common in daily life, ranging from autonomous delivery vehicles on city streets to gesture-controlled vending machines.

Data shows that China is the world's largest producer of robots. In 2023, China produced 7.833 million service robots — marking a 21.3 per cent increase from the previous year. In the same year, the output of industrial robots in China reached 430,000 sets, nearly 73 per cent of the global total. — Xinhua



A robotic dog that would be deployed to deliver heavy loads including garbage is in a test run at the Mount Tai scenic area in Tai'an, east China's Shandong Province, 21 October 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Greenhouse gases hit new record highs in 2023: UN

GREENHOUSE gas concentrations in the atmosphere reached new record highs in 2023, locking in future temperature increases for years to come, the United Nations warned Monday.

Levels of the three main greenhouse gases — the climate-warming carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide — all increased yet again last year, the UN's weather and climate agency said.

The World Meteorological Organization said carbon dioxide was accumulating in the atmosphere faster than ever, up more than 10 per cent in two decades.

The WMO's annual Greenhouse Gas Bulletin comes ahead of the 11-22 November COP29 UN climate summit in Baku.

"Another year. Another record. This should set alarm bells

ringing among decision-makers," WMO chief Celeste Saulo said in a statement.

"We are clearly off track to meet the Paris Agreement goal."

Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, countries agreed to cap global warming at "well below" two degrees Celsius above average levels measured between 1850 and 1900 — and 1.5C if possible. As long as emissions continue, greenhouse gases will keep accumulating in the atmosphere, raising global temperatures, WMO said. Last year, global temperatures on land and sea were "the highest in records dating as far back as 1850", it said.

Given how long CO₂ lasts in the atmosphere, current temperature levels will continue for decades, even if emissions rapidly shrink to net zero. — AFP

Weather favourable for launching Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship: launch centre

THE weather on the launch day of the Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship will be favourable, with all meteorological conditions meeting the mission requirements, the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China announced on Monday.

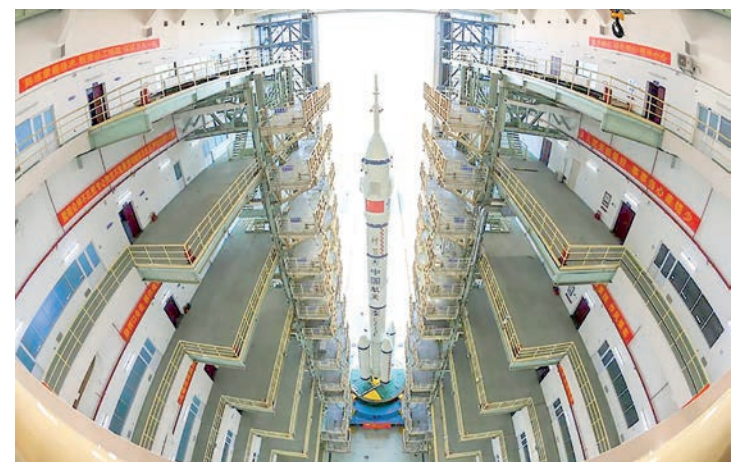
China will launch the Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship in the near future, with the combination of the spaceship and a Long March-2F carrier rocket already transferred to the launch area.

The Shenzhou-19 crewed space mission has completed its last joint practice before launch and the system-wide airtightness check. The rocket and spacecraft have completed the electrical performance test, and the astronauts and all systems at the launch site have carried out the launch drill, with everything reported to be

in good condition, according to the launch centre.

Ren Fengjie, an official with the centre's meteorological department, told Xinhua that this launch mission will take place in late autumn and early winter, with low night-time tempera-

tures at the launch site. The meteorological staff started the status check of key equipment a month ago, and conducted a historical review and specialized weather analysis on strong winds, precipitation and low temperatures. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 22 October 2024 shows the combination of the Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship and a Long March-2F carrier rocket being transferred to the launch area. PHOTO: XINHUA



Photo taken 9 September 2024 shows ginkgo trees lining a street marked for the Jingu Gaien redevelopment project in Tokyo. PHOTO: KYODO

Tree cutting begins for Tokyo's Jingu Gaien redevelopment

TREE cutting began Monday for a controversial redevelopment plan in Tokyo's leafy Jingu Gaien area, developers involved in the project said.

The move went ahead despite opposition from conservation advocates after the Tokyo metropolitan government accepted a revised plan put forward last week by its main developer Mitsui Fudosan Co that will see fewer trees cut down.

Dozens of people protested

the felling as it began in the area famous for its ginkgo tree-lined avenue after it was originally meant to start last fall.

The project was postponed after pushback from prominent figures, including late Japanese composer and musician Ryuichi Sakamoto and the International Council on Monuments and Sites, a UNESCO advisory body.

In September last year, the Tokyo government asked the developer to compile measures

to conserve the trees, and the company put forward the revised plan last month.

The new plan reduces the number of trees measuring three metres in height or more to be cut down to 619 from 743 and ensures a new baseball stadium will be built 18 metres from the ginkgo avenue rather than the previous eight metres.

The impact of the changes on the project's scheduled completion in 2036 is still under review. — Kyodo

Ballet "The Butterfly Lovers" staged in Hong Kong

ADAPTED by Hong Kong Ballet, "The Butterfly Lovers", a large-scale ballet, premiered at the Grand Theatre of Hong Kong Cultural Centre on the evening of 18 October to a full house.

At the end of the performance, the audience greeted the creative team with long applause and cheers.

Known as "the Chinese Romeo and Juliet," "The Butterfly Lovers" is brought to the stage for the first time in the form of ballet in Hong Kong, offering the audience a mesmerizing fusion of the ancient and modern, East and West.

The widely known legendary Chinese tragic romance between Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai has inspired countless adaptations in opera, music, film, and other art forms.

Hong Kong Ballet's Artistic Director Septime Webre from the United States was deeply moved the first time when he heard "The Butterfly Lovers" violin concerto and believed it to be a "wonderful subject for a ballet".

Ricky Hu, choreographer-in-residence of Hong Kong Ballet, and his wife, Mai Jingwen, took on the task of creating the adaptation.

"There's a lot of pressure because the story is a classic and the audience has seen so many adaptations," Hu said.

"The story and music of 'The Butterfly Lovers' have long been deeply ingrained in people's hearts. We're not here to retell the story, but to find a modern way to tell it," Hu said.

While preserving the core story of the drama, they strove to bring innovation and breakthroughs to the dance presentation.

Hu and Mai both come from a background in traditional Chinese dance. In the production of this ballet, they made a bold attempt to combine traditional Chinese dance elements with ballet. They admitted that this posed a significant challenge for the choreographers and the dancers.

Xuan Cheng, principal dancer of Hong Kong Ballet, played the female leading role in this dance. She has played Juliet at home and abroad. This was the first time she played Zhu Yingtai.

"In my view, Zhu Yingtai was braver than Juliet. Throughout the story, she always tried to take control of her own destiny," Cheng said. — Xinhua

"Venom: The Last Dance" tops N American box office on opening weekend

THE new Columbia Pictures and Marvel Studios' superhero film "Venom: The Last Dance", topped ticket sales at the North American box office with an estimated three-day total of US\$51 million on its opening weekend, according to figures collected by measurement company Comscore on Sunday.

The opening weekend tally is much lower than that of the previous two films in the "Venom" trilogy. The first "Venom" opened to over \$80 million in 2018, while "Venom: Let There Be Carnage" debuted with over \$90 million in

2021. "Venom: The Last Dance", the finale of the trilogy, was directed by Kelly Marcel and starred Tom Hardy as Venom, one of Marvel's most complex characters.

The comic book film has only earned an approval rating of 37 per cent based on 128 reviews to date on the review-aggregation website Rotten Tomatoes, and a "B-" on an "A+" to "F" scale from audiences polled by the market research firm CinemaScore.

The film earned \$124 million internationally, including \$46 million from the Chinese mainland, bringing its worldwide total to

\$175 million.

Paramount Pictures' horror film "Smile 2" dropped to second place on its second weekend with \$9.4 million for a North American total of \$40.7 million.

Another newcomer, Focus Features' religious thriller "Conclave," opened in third place with \$6.5 million. — Xinhua

Carlos Diehz, Edward Berger, Ralph Fiennes and Isabella Rossellini attend the "Conclave" New York premiere on 23 October 2024 in New York City. PHOTO: JOHN NACION/GETTY IMAGES/AFP



ECONOMY WORLD

China's industrial profits top 5 trln yuan in first three quarters

THE combined profit of major industrial enterprises in China reached 5.23 trillion yuan (US\$735.41 billion) in the January-September period, down 3.5 per cent year on year, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on Sunday.

Meanwhile, the new momentum industries represented by high-tech manufacturing experienced rapid growth. NBS statistician Yu Weining said this showcases the resilience of industrial economic development.

Multiple factors have contributed to the decline in industrial enterprises' profit growth rates, including a significant increase in the year-on-year comparison base since August, insufficient effective demand, and declining industrial product prices, said Yu.

In September alone, profits dropped by 27.1 per cent year on year.

According to the NBS, the total profits of major industrial



A worker is on duty at the production line of Tianrun Industrial Technology Co Ltd in Wendeng District of Weihai City, east China's Shandong Province, 21 July 2023. The district is committed to developing automobiles, new energy and new materials, electronic information and medicine industries. The proportion of high-tech industry output value in the district has risen to 60 per cent. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

enterprises increased by 575.43 billion yuan from January to September compared to the period

from January to August.

During the first nine months, driven by rapid production

growth, the profits of high-tech manufacturing industries increased by 6.3 per cent year on

year.

Yu said this growth rate is 9.8 percentage points higher than the average level of major industrial enterprises, contributing 1.1 percentage points to the overall profit growth. This performance has significantly supported industrial profits.

With solid efforts to expand domestic demand, promote consumption, and stabilize international market demand, the consumer goods manufacturing industry's profits increased by 2.4 per cent year on year in the January-September period, contributing 0.5 percentage points to the overall industrial profit growth.

The resilience of new industrial growth drivers is evident, although the industrial profit growth rate has declined, said Yu, adding that with the stabilization in the expectation of industrial enterprises and an increase in confidence, industrial profit growth is expected to recover. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thailand's exports slow to 1.1% in September

THAILAND'S exports expanded for a third consecutive month in September, thanks to continued growth in agricultural, agro-industrial and industrial product shipments, official data showed on Monday.

Exports, a key driver of the Southeast Asian country's economic growth, rose 1.1 per cent last month from a year earlier to US\$25.98 billion, slowing sharply from an increase of seven per cent in August, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The increase in exports was driven by rising demand in the global market as key trading partners started to recover from inflationary pressures, while shipments of electronic and electrical appliances continued to expand due to cyclical trends and competitive pricing, the ministry said in a statement. — Xinhua

Laos to increase minimum wage amid economic challenges

THE Lao government is considering increasing the minimum salary for civil servants to cover their spending on basic needs amid economic challenges.

Senior officials from ministries and government organizations, and provincial leaders gathered here for the government's monthly meeting for October, with key discussions centring on increasing the minimum salary for civil servants and adjusting personnel quotas for various government sectors for the upcoming year.

Participants approved a proposal from the Lao Ministry of Home Affairs regarding salary disbursement and policy improvements to enhance civil servants' living standards given the current economic pressures, Lao News Agency reported on Monday. The meeting also agreed on the need to ensure that sufficient officials are available to continue the government's work efficiently and productively. — Xinhua

Global stocks diverge, oil prices tumble as Iran fears ease

GLOBAL stocks diverged and oil prices tumbled on Monday as markets were relieved that Israel's strikes on Iran had avoided the country's energy infrastructure.

Israel avoided Iran's oil and nuclear facilities in its air strikes on the country on Saturday, easing investor fears about the extent of Israel's retaliation to Tehran's 1 October missile barrage.

Iran has downplayed the attack, saying it caused "limited damage" to a few radar systems on military sites.

"Investors breathed a sigh of relief as the attack was more restrained than expected," said Ipek Ozkardeska, senior analyst at Swissquote Bank.

Brent North Sea crude, the international benchmark oil contract, fell around six per cent on Monday morning with prices hovering around \$71 per barrel. "Israel's strike, carefully avoiding energy sites, has softened fears of a full-scale conflict



Workmen walk past an electronic board showing the foreign exchange trading price of the Japanese yen against the US dollar, along a street in central Tokyo on 28 October 2024. The yen hit a three-month low on 28 October, sliding more than one per cent against the US dollar as Japan's ruling coalition was projected to lose its majority in a general election. **PHOTO: AFP**

with Iran," said Stephen Innes, analyst at SPI Asset Management.

"Even more telling is Iran's response, downplaying the attack's impact and signalling that its warnings may have deterred any more aggressive action from Israel," he added.

Concerns have shifted back to focus on oversupply in 2025 and a slowdown in demand from China, the world's largest oil importer, according to analysts.

London's FTSE 100 retreated as crude prices affected both ends of the top-tier index. — AFP

Danish enterprise eyes partnerships, green solutions at CIIE

AS the 7th China International Import Expo (CIIE) approaches, Danfoss, a leading Danish energy efficiency solution company, is preparing to showcase its innovative products and announce new strategic partnerships aimed at contributing to China's green transition.

This year marks Danfoss' fifth participation in the CIIE, and the company's leadership is optimistic about the opportunities the expo presents.

Kim Fausing, president and CEO of Danfoss, emphasized the importance of the CIIE in fostering collaboration and business growth.

"Through the new partnerships we are go-

ing to announce during CIIE, we hope to accelerate the implementation of our green solutions. Our message is clear: it's not only possible to curb emissions with existing decarbonization technology, but it is also profitable," Fausing told Xinhua in a recent interview.

Highlighting that the CIIE serves as an important platform for multinationals to explore opportunities in China's rapidly growing green economy, he said that Danfoss is well-positioned to contribute to China's green agenda.

"The CIIE is an ideal platform for us to better understand the market and strengthen our ties



A screen promoting the upcoming 7th China International Import Expo (CIIE) is pictured at the entrance of National Exhibition and Convention Centre (Shanghai), the main venue for the CIIE, in east China's Shanghai, 22 October 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

with our Chinese partners," Fausing noted.

"Danfoss has established itself as a trusted partner in China's de-

carbonization journey," he said, adding that the company has a significant presence in China, and its solutions have been inte-

grated into such areas as carbon-neutral initiatives.

This year, Danfoss will bring a broad range of solutions to the CIIE,

covering sectors such as data centres, water and wastewater treatment, and food and beverage industry. Fausing stressed that these solutions are designed to create unique value for China's green transition, providing efficiency and sustainability.

"Our participation at the CIIE has helped strengthen our reputation as a decarbonization partner and laid a solid foundation for continued growth in China. This year, we will showcase our expertise through practical solutions and highlight the success stories featured in the Danfoss Impact White Papers," Fausing said. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V HE LE VOY.NO. (0UVAAS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HE LE VOY.NO. (0UVAAS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (440W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LUDWIG SCHULTE VOY.NO. (440W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MCL-4 VOY.NO. (07N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL-4 VOY. NO. (07N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC QIUMING VOY.NO. (2414S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC QIUMING VOY.NO. (2414S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO.LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0333-782N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0333-782N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SEA PLAIN 8 VOY.NO. (105252)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SEA PLAIN 8 VOY.NO. (105252)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-5** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Joining BRICS may help Palestine expand international support – Official



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Russian President Vladimir Putin shake hands before a meeting on the sidelines of the 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan, Russia. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

JOINING BRICS could help Palestine gain broad international support, Mahmoud al-Habbash,

an aide to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, told Sputnik. At the BRICS summit, Pal-

estinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas said that Palestine is ready to join the BRICS

work in any status, whether as a member, partner or observer.

The BRICS summit was held in Russia's Kazan from 22-24 October, with the participation of heads of states, as well as representatives of several international organizations. BRICS is an intergovernmental association created in 2006. Russia assumed the rotating presidency of the bloc on 1 January 2024.

The year began with the accession of new members to the association. In addition to Russia, Brazil, India, China and South Africa, it now includes Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia, according to the website of the Russian 2024 BRICS Chairmanship. Media reports said that Saudi Arabia has not formalized its participation yet but has been taking part in BRICS meetings. — SPUTNIK

S Korean military is culprit of drone incursion over Pyongyang: DPRK defence ministry

THE South Korean military has been proved to be the "principal" of the drone incursion into the capital city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), the DPRK's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported on Monday.

The act was aimed at scattering anti-DPRK leaflets, reported the KCNA, citing the final investigation results released a day earlier by a spokesman for the country's Ministry of National Defence.

The conclusion was made by a joint investigation group composed of the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of State Security, among other relevant specialized institutions after a comprehensive analysis of the flight plans and logs obtained from the flight control module dismantled from the remains of a crashed drone.

The KCNA report offered a detailed flight record showing that after taking off at Paekryong Island at 23:25:30 on 8 October, the drone flew over Jangyon County of South Hwanghae Province and the waters around the Cho Islet and then to the waters around Namjoap Islet, before it flew over Chollima District, Nampho Municipality and intruded into the DPRK's capital. — Xinhua

Singapore's recovery to continue amid robust global economic outlook: report

THE recovery in the Singapore economy was more entrenched in the third quarter this year, with close to 60 per cent of the economy growing at around or above

pre-pandemic levels, according to an official report issued Monday.

The strong performance was largely attributed to the outstanding performance

of the manufacturing and export sectors, according to the macroeconomic review released by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). — Xinhua

Death toll from tropical storm Trami in Philippines climbs to 116, 39 missing

THE death toll from catastrophic flooding and landslides triggered by tropical storm Trami that slammed into the Philippines last week has risen to 116, with at least 39 people remaining unaccounted for, the Philippines' National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said Monday.

Local authorities said Trami dumped two months of rain, impacting over 6.7 million people across 17 of the country's regions.

The search continues for 39 missing people who were either buried in landslides or washed away by the floods. Trami, the 11th typhoon to hit the Philippines this year, barrelled across the

Philippines, leaving a trail of destruction with disastrous flooding and landslides on Luzon Island, particularly in the Bicol and Calabarzon regions, and areas in the central and southern Philippines.

Floodwaters crumbled high-ways and bridges, paralyzing transport, and flooded homes with mud. Three days after Trami exited the Philippines on Friday, disaster victims are still desperately waiting for food and clean water. Many areas still lack potable water or electricity. Some victims forced to leave their flooded houses at the height of the flooding started returning to their homes as the flood receded on Saturday. — Xinhua



Residents affected by Tropical Storm Trami being evacuated from the roofs of their submerged houses in Libon town, Albay province, South of Manila on 23 October 2024. **PHOTO: PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD VIA AFP**

SPORTS

Man City go top after Arsenal and Liverpool draw

MANCHESTER City end the weekend as the new Premier League leaders after Liverpool were held to a 2-2 draw away to Arsenal on Sunday.

Although Arne Slot's side could consider the result to be two points dropped, they twice came back from behind against a rival missing several key players through injury and suspension.

Bukayo Saka put Arsenal ahead in the ninth minute, after cutting inside his marker and scoring with a shot at the far post, but Virgil van Dijk headed Liverpool level just nine minutes later.

Mikel Merino's powerful header put Arsenal ahead again just before halftime, and it looked

as if Arsenal could hold on for a win until a wonderful combination between Trent Alexander-Arnold and Darwin Nunez ended with Mohamed Salah's 81st-minute equalizer.

Cole Palmer scored the winning goal and gave an assist for Nicolas Jackson to open the scoring as Chelsea beat Newcastle United 2-1 at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea were the better side, although the result was in doubt after Alexander Isak's 32nd-minute equalizer cancelled out Jackson's finish, but Chelsea boss Enzo Maresca will be pleased with his side's defensive display after Palmer's powerful near post finish early in the second half. — Xinhua



Liverpool's Luis Diaz (front) is denied by Arsenal's goalkeeper David Raya during the English Premier League football match between Arsenal and Liverpool in London, Britain, on 27 October 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Myanmar wins 2 silvers, 2 bronzes at Lancang-Mekong Sepak Takraw



The medal-winning Myanmar Sepak Takraw team is pictured being warmly welcomed at the Yangon International Airport yesterday.

THE Myanmar Sepak Takraw team grabbed two silver and two bronze medals for the country at the Lancang-Mekong Sepak Takraw Competition held from 23 to 27 October in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China.

Athletes led by U Sai Zaw Tun Lin arrived back Myanmar yesterday evening, and they were welcomed back by Vice-President U Aung Myint Myat of the Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation and relevant officials at Yangon International Airport.

During the competitions, Vietnam won first

in the men's foursome event, while Myanmar was second, and Laos and Vietnam jointly won third place. Vietnam won first place while Myanmar won second, and China and Vietnam jointly won third place in the women's foursome competition.

Then, Thailand won the men's regu, while Vietnam won second, and Myanmar and Laos jointly won third place. Finally, Thailand stood first, Vietnam won second, and Myanmar and China jointly won third place in women's regu.

Teams from Myanmar, China, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam competed in the tournament. — Arkar Linn/KTZH

Real Madrid face investigation over racist insults to Barcelona's Yamal

REAL Madrid face a likely sanction after FC Barcelona's Spain international winger Lamine Yamal was the victim of racist insults during his side's 4-0 thrashing of Real Madrid in Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu Stadium on Saturday night.

Videos on social media show the 17-year-old, whose mother is from Equatorial Guinea and whose father is from Morocco, receive various racist insults from a sector of Real Madrid fans as he celebrated scoring Barcelona's third goal in a 4-0 win in the 77th minute.

La Liga issued a statement on Sunday stating they would "immediately report the racist insults and gestures received by Barcelona players to the Hate Crimes Section of the National Police Information Brigade, as well as informing the Co-ordinating Prosecutor of the Hate Crimes and Discrimination unit of the State Attorney-General's office." — Xinhua

Man Utd sack manager Ten Hag



(COMBO) This combination of pictures created on 28 October 2024 shows then Manchester United's assistant coach Ruud van Nistelrooy on 14 September 2024 at St Mary's Stadium in Southampton, southern England, and then Manchester United's Dutch manager Erik ten Hag on 4 November 2023 at Craven Cottage in London on 4 November 2023. Manchester United have sacked manager Erik ten Hag following the club's lacklustre start to the season, with a club statement saying: "Erik ten Hag has left his role as Manchester United men's first-team manager. Ruud van Nistelrooy will take charge of the team as interim head coach, supported by the current coaching team, whilst a permanent head coach is recruited," on 28 October 2024. United dropped to 14th in the table after suffering their fourth defeat in nine league games the previous day. PHOTO: GLYN KIRK AND ADRIAN DENNIS / AFP

PREMIER League club Manchester United have sacked manager Erik ten Hag after two and a half years in the role.

Ten Hag's dismissal comes after United lost 2-1 to West Ham United on Sunday, leaving them 14th in the Premier League table with just three wins from the first nine games, representing the club's worst start to a season in 35 years.

Ten Hag will be temporarily replaced by his former assistant Ruud van Nistelrooy, who scored 150 goals in 219 games for United as a player between 2001 and 2006.

Joining the club in May 2022, Ten Hag led United to the 2022-23 EFL Cup and the 2023-24 FA Cup titles. However, the Dutchman had come under fire for perceived under-performance in the Premier League and in continental competition, with several high-profile signings also flattering to deceive.

Ten Hag's departure means United are now looking for their sixth full-time manager since Sir Alex Ferguson retired in 2013 after 27 years in the role. — Xinhua



Iranian leadership to decide best response to Israel's attack - Supreme Leader

IRANIAN officials will decide how to respond to the recent attack on Iranian territory carried out by Israel, Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Sunday.

"How to convey this power and resolve of the Iranian nation to the Zionist regime is for our officials to determine, and what is in the best interest of the nation and the country should be done," Khamenei was quoted as saying by the Nour News agency.

Khamenei added that Israel's attack should "neither be exaggerated nor downplayed".

The Israel Defence Forces said overnight on Saturday that it had struck military targets in Iran in response to the

attacks on the Jewish state on 1 October. The CBS News broadcaster reported, citing sources, that the Israeli attack on Iran had been limited to military targets without involving nuclear or oil facilities.

According to IRNA, none of Iran's oil facilities were damaged.

The Fars news agency claimed that Israel had struck a number of military bases in the west and southwest of Teh-

ran. At the same time, the Tasnim news agency stated that the military centres of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC, elite units of the Armed Forces), located in the west and southwest of the Iranian capital, had not been damaged.

A Sputnik correspondent reported that at about 1:25 GMT, a second series of explosions was heard in the central part of Tehran, in the area of the Russian embassy, which lasted about a minute. — SPUTNIK



A missile is launched during a military drill at an undisclosed location in southern Iran, shown in a handout picture provided on 19 January 2024. PHOTO: IRANIAN ARMY OFFICE/ AFP

Trump, Harris lean on traditional bases eight days before US vote



Voters fill out their ballots at the Stamford Government Centre on the first day of early voting, in Stamford on 21 October 2024. PHOTO: AFP

A nail-biting US presidential campaign heads into its final week Monday, with polls showing little daylight between the two candidates as they ramp up appeals to their respective bases to turn out and vote.

More than 41 million Americans have already cast early ballots ahead

of Election Day on 5 November, in what is expected to be one of the tightest elections of modern times.

Outgoing President Joe Biden will join them in casting his own vote Monday, the White House said.

On the campaign trail, both candidates return to key battleground

states, with Democrat Kamala Harris heading to Michigan, where she faces opposition from Arab Americans outraged over US support for Israel.

Republican Donald Trump, 78, will head to Georgia, where he will address a gathering of pastors and faith leaders before holding a rally.

The trips come after Harris, 60, spent Sunday going neighbourhood to neighbourhood in Philadelphia, in must-win Pennsylvania, with stops at a Black church and Puerto Rican restaurant.

"The election is here, and the choice, Philly, is truly in your hands," the Democrat said, in her 14th trip to the state since Biden dropped out of the race in July.

Former president Trump packed a crowd into New York's famed Madison Square Garden arena on Sunday, where — stoking tensions on immigration — speakers made crude remarks about Latinos and advisor Stephen Miller declared "America is for Americans, and Americans only". — AFP

Japan PM vows to maintain coalition makeup after election defeat

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba on Monday dismissed the idea of expanding the ruling coalition's composition for now but expressed a desire to incorporate policy ideas from the opposition camp after a crushing defeat in the previous day's general election.

His remarks came as expectations mounted that his Liberal Democratic Party may seek policy-by-policy deals with the Democratic Party for the People, which saw its seats in the 465-member House of Representatives more than quadruple from seven on Sunday, to prevent political gridlock.

The two parties have already been contacting each other "at the secretary general level", the DPP's leader Yuichiro Tamaki told a TV programme on Monday.

On Monday, Ishiba described the election outcome, in which the ruling bloc lost its majority in powerful lower house, as "harsh", vowing to fundamentally reform the party to restore voter confidence shaken by a slush fund scandal. — Kyodo